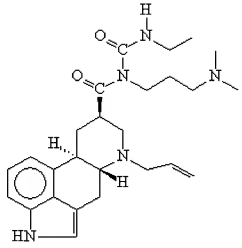
CLAIM AMENDMENTS

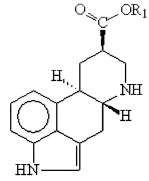
1. (currently amended) A process for preparing cabergoline (I)



cabergoline (I)

comprising the following steps:

a) reacting the compound of formula (XIII)



wherein R_1 is a C_{1-4} alkyl group, in the presence of a catalyst

i) with a compound of formula (XIV), X-$COOR_2$ (XIV)

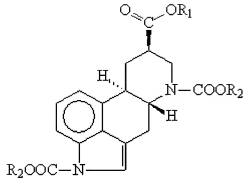
wherein R_2 is an optionally substituted straight or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group,

X represents a bromine or chlorine atom, or

(ii) with a compound of formula (XV), $O(COOR_2)_2$ (XV)

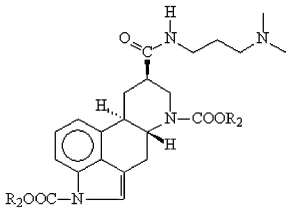
wherein R_2 is a group as defined above for formula (XIV);

b) reacting the obtained carbamate ~~derivative~~ of formula (XVI)



17

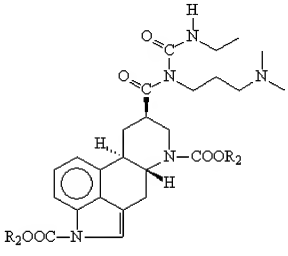
18 **wherein R_1 and R_2 is a group as defined above, with 3-**
19 **(dimethylamino) propylamine in the presence of a catalyst;**
20 **c) reacting the obtained ergoline-8β-carboxamide**
21 **~~derivative~~ of formula (XVII)**



22

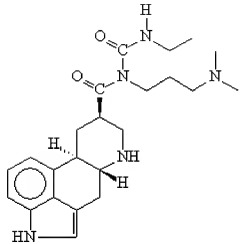
wherein R_2 is a group as defined above, with ethyl isocyanate in the presence of ligand(s) and Ib and IIb metal group salt catalyst;

d) reacting the obtained protected N-acylurea ~~derivative~~ of formula (XVIII)



wherein R_2 is a group as defined above, with a strong aqueous inorganic acid; and

e) reacting the obtained secondary amine of formula (XIX)



with an ~~electrophyl~~ electrophilic allyl alcohol ~~derivative~~ in the presence of a palladium or nickel containing catalyst and optionally in the presence of ligand(s) to form cabergoline (I).

2. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein R_1 is methyl and R_2 is *tert*-butyl.

3. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein step (a) is carried out at a temperature of from 0°C to 50°C in the presence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine catalyst in a hydrocarbon halide solvent.

4. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein step (b) is carried out at a temperature of from 50°C to 70°C in an C_{1-6} alkyl alcohol solvent in the presence of 2-hydroxypyridine catalyst.

5. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein step c) is carried out in hydrocarbon halide solvent, in the presence of copper(I) chloride and/or copper(II) chloride and/or copper(I) bromide and/or copper(I) iodide catalysts and triphenylphosphine or tri-*p*-tolylphophine ligand at a temperature of from 30°C to 50°C.

6. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein step (d) is carried out at a temperature of from 40°C to 80°C in aqueous hydrochloric acid.

7. (currently amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein at step (e) the ~~electrophyl~~ electrophilic allyl alcohol ~~derivative~~ is allyl acetate, the catalyst is tetrakis (triphenyl-phosphine) palladium(0), and the reaction is carried out in an aromatic hydrocarbon solvent at a temperature of from 20°C to 50°C.

Claims 8 through 17 (canceled)

18. (new) A process according to claim 1 which further comprises the following steps:

(f) chromatographically purifying the Cabergoline of the Formula (I) to obtain Cabergoline as an oily solid product;

(g) dissolving the Cabergoline obtained as an oily solid product in an organic solvent; and

(h) partially removing the organic solvent from the Cabergoline in several steps under vacuum at a temperature of from 0°C to 30°C, to obtain a non-oily solid Cabergoline product.

19. (new) A process according to claim 18 wherein the organic solvent employed during step (g) is acetone, methyl acetate or dichloromethane.